



## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**[Docket No. 72-1050; NRC-2016-0231]**

**Interim Storage Partners, LLC; WCS Consolidated Interim Storage Facility**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** License amendment; issuance; opportunity to request a hearing and to petition for leave to intervene.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reviewed an application by the Interim Storage Partners, LLC (ISP) for an amendment to Materials License No. SNM-2515, for the WCS Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF), located in Andrews County, Texas. The amendment revises License Condition 17 to clarify the timing of mandatory license amendment requests relating to incorporation of Aging Management Programs (AMPs) for certain spent fuel storage casks with renewed Certificates of Compliance. Interested persons may request a hearing on whether this action should be rescinded or modified.

**DATES:** A request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed by

**[INSERT 60 DAYS FROM PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID **NRC-2016-0231** when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Website:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2016-0231**. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email: [Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov](mailto:Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the "For Further Information Contact" section of this document.

- **NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System**

**(ADAMS):** You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the

search, select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov). The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.

- **NRC’s PDR:** You may examine and purchase copies of public documents, by appointment, at the NRC’s PDR, Room P1 B35, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov) or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John-Chau Nguyen, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-0262; email: [John-Chau.Nguyen@nrc.gov](mailto:John-Chau.Nguyen@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Introduction**

By letter dated January 24, 2022, ISP submitted to the NRC an application to amend the Materials License No. SNM-2515 for the WCS CISF, located in Andrews County, Texas (ADAMS Accession No. ML22024A142). Materials License No. SNM-2515 authorizes ISP to construct and operate its facility as proposed in its license application, as amended, and to receive, possess, store, and transfer spent nuclear fuel, including a small quantity of mixed-oxide fuel, and greater-than-Class-C radioactive waste at the WCS CISF. The proposed amendment clarifies the timing for ISP to satisfy License Condition 17 pertaining to when the incorporation of any technically relevant portions of AMPs in renewals of Certificate of Compliances (CoCs) Numbers 1015, 1025, and 1031 is required so that incorporation of AMPs and Time-Limited Aging Analyses can be combined with future amendments of SNM-2515.

In a letter to ISP dated February 23, 2022, the NRC notified ISP that the application was acceptable to begin a technical review (ADAMS Accession No. ML22054A243). In accordance with § 72.16 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), a notice of docketing was published in the *Federal Register* on March 8, 2022 (87 FR 13013).

The NRC prepared a safety evaluation report (SER) (ADAMS Accession No. ML22138A365) to document its review and evaluation of the amendment request. As further explained in the SER, the NRC has determined that the license amendment is administrative in nature, and therefore satisfies the 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11) criteria for a categorical exclusion from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact statement. Under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11), this action is eligible for categorical exclusion, because it is an amendment to a materials license that is administrative, organizational, or procedural in nature, or which results in a change in process operations or equipment, provided that (i) there is no significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite, (ii) there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure, (iii) there is no significant construction impact, and (iv) there is no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents. This administrative change would not result in any of the effects listed in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11). Consequently, an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact are not required.

Upon completing its review, the NRC staff determined the request complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), as well as the NRC's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment. The NRC approved and issued Amendment No. 1 to Special Nuclear Materials License No. SNM-2515, held by ISP to construct and operate its facility as proposed in its license application, as amended, and to receive, possess, store, and transfer spent nuclear fuel, including a

small quantity of mixed-oxide fuel, and greater-than-Class-C radioactive waste at the WCS CISF. Amendment No. 1 was effective as of the date of issuance.

In accordance with 10 CFR 72.46(b)(2), the NRC has issued the amendment based on a determination that Amendment No. 1 does not present a genuine issue as to whether the health and safety of the public will be significantly affected because, as discussed above, it is administrative in nature and will affect no aspect of facility safety or operations. Notice is hereby given of the right of interested persons to request a hearing on whether the action should be rescinded or modified.

## **II. Opportunity to Request a Hearing and Petition for Leave to Intervene**

Within 60 days after the date of publication of this notice, any person (petitioner) whose interest may be affected by this action may file a request for a hearing and petition for leave to intervene (petition) with respect to the action. Petitions shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure" in 10 CFR part 2. Interested persons should consult 10 CFR 2.309. If a petition is filed, the presiding officer will rule on the petition and, if appropriate, a notice of a hearing will be issued.

Petitions must be filed no later than 60 days from the date of publication of this notice in accordance with the filing instructions in the "Electronic Submissions (E-Filing)" section of this document. Petitions and motions for leave to file new or amended contentions that are filed after the deadline will not be entertained absent a determination by the presiding officer that the filing demonstrates good cause by satisfying the three factors in 10 CFR 2.309(c)(1)(i) through (iii).

A State, local governmental body, Federally recognized Indian Tribe, or designated agency thereof, may submit a petition to the Commission to participate as a party under 10 CFR 2.309(h) no later than 60 days from the date of publication of this notice. Alternatively, a State, local governmental body, Federally recognized Indian Tribe, or agency thereof may participate as a non-party under 10 CFR 2.315(c).

For information about filing a petition and about participation by a person not a party under 10 CFR 2.315, see ADAMS Accession No. ML20340A053 (<https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML20340A053>) and on the NRC website at <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/adjudicatory/hearing.html#participate>

### **III. Electronic Submissions (E-Filing)**

All documents filed in NRC adjudicatory proceedings including documents filed by an interested State, local governmental body, Federally recognized Indian Tribe, or designated agency thereof that requests to participate under 10 CFR 2.315(c), must be filed in accordance with 10 CFR 2.302. The E-Filing process requires participants to submit and serve all adjudicatory documents over the internet, or in some cases, to mail copies on electronic storage media, unless an exemption permitting an alternative filing method, as discussed below, is granted. Detailed guidance on electronic submissions is located in the Guidance for Electronic Submissions to the NRC (ADAMS Accession No. ML13031A056) and on the NRC website at <https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html>.

To comply with the procedural requirements of E-Filing, at least 10 days prior to the filing deadline, the participant should contact the Office of the Secretary by email at [Hearing.Docket@nrc.gov](mailto:Hearing.Docket@nrc.gov), or by telephone at 301-415-1677, to (1) request a digital identification (ID) certificate, which allows the participant (or its counsel or representative) to digitally sign submissions and access the E-Filing system for any proceeding in which it is participating; and (2) advise the Secretary that the participant will be submitting a petition or other adjudicatory document (even in instances in which the participant, or its counsel or representative, already holds an NRC-issued digital ID certificate). Based upon this information, the Secretary will establish an electronic docket for the proceeding if the Secretary has not already established an electronic docket.

Information about applying for a digital ID certificate is available on the NRC's public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals/getting-started.html>. After a digital ID certificate is obtained and a docket created, the participant must submit adjudicatory documents in Portable Document Format. Guidance on submissions is available on the NRC's public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/electronic-sub-ref-mat.html>. A filing is considered complete at the time the document is submitted through the NRC's E-Filing system. To be timely, an electronic filing must be submitted to the E-Filing system no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the due date. Upon receipt of a transmission, the E-Filing system timestamps the document and sends the submitter an email confirming receipt of the document. The E-Filing system also distributes an email that provides access to the document to the NRC's Office of the General Counsel and any others who have advised the Office of the Secretary that they wish to participate in the proceeding, so that the filer need not serve the document on those participants separately. Therefore, applicants and other participants (or their counsel or representative) must apply for and receive a digital ID certificate before adjudicatory documents are filed to obtain access to the documents via the E-Filing system.

A person filing electronically using the NRC's adjudicatory E-Filing system may seek assistance by contacting the NRC's Electronic Filing Help Desk through the "Contact Us" link located on the NRC's public website at

<https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html> by email to [MSHD.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:MSHD.Resource@nrc.gov), or by a toll-free call at 1-866-672-7640. The NRC Electronic Filing Help Desk is available between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, excluding government holidays.

Participants who believe that they have good cause for not submitting documents electronically must file an exemption request, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.302(g), with their initial paper filing stating why there is good cause for not filing electronically and requesting authorization to continue to submit documents in paper format. Such filings must be submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 2.302(b)-(d). Participants filing

adjudicatory documents in this manner are responsible for serving their documents on all other participants. Participants granted an exemption under 10 CFR 2.302(g)(2) must still meet the electronic formatting requirement in 10 CFR 2.302(g)(1), unless the participant also seeks and is granted an exemption from 10 CFR 2.302(g)(1).

Documents submitted in adjudicatory proceedings will appear in the NRC's electronic hearing docket, which is publicly available at <https://adams.nrc.gov/ehd>, unless excluded pursuant to an order of the presiding officer. If you do not have an NRC-issued digital ID certificate as described above, click "cancel" when the link requests certificates and you will be automatically directed to the NRC's electronic hearing dockets where you will be able to access any publicly available documents in a particular hearing docket. Participants are requested not to include personal privacy information such as social security numbers, home addresses, or personal phone numbers in their filings unless an NRC regulation or other law requires submission of such information. With respect to copyrighted works, except for limited excerpts that serve the purpose of the adjudicatory filings and would constitute a Fair Use application, participants should not include copyrighted materials in their submission.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Dated: June 2, 2022.

**Yaira K. Sanabria-Diaz,**

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